IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims with the following re-written version

1. (Currently Amended) Device for the transport of metallic work pieces during a heat treatment, the device comprising:

a transport device;

a rack supporting said transport device wherein said transport device is floatingly borne in relation to said rack;

a carriage being horizontally moveable and configured to carry said rack, wherein said rack is moveably arranged with said carriage; and

a clamping device for forming a vacuum-tight seal when connected with a corresponding clamping device on a matching module, wherein said clamping device is arranged at said transport device.

2. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, wherein a floating bearing is provided and comprises a number of elastic bearing elements located between the transport device and the rack.

3. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 2, wherein ~~the~~ each elastic bearing element comprises a molded element made of rubber.

4. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 3, wherein ~~the~~ each molded element is respectively equipped with a locking plate made of metal that is disposed on a rack side and on a transport device side.

5. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 3, wherein ~~the~~ each molded element further comprises at least one liner plate made of metal.

6. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 5, wherein ~~the~~ each liner plate is vulcanized on or in ~~the~~ each corresponding molded element.

7 (Withdrawn) Device according to claim 1, wherein the transport device is a heat-insulated and gas and/or vacuum tight transport chamber.

8. (Withdrawn) Device according to claim 1, further comprising: a clamping device for forming a vacuum-tight seal when connected with a corresponding clamping device on a matching module.

9. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 8, wherein the clamping device is formed from at least two clamping devices that are movable relative to the transport chamber that engage in a bracing position in abutments formed at the matching module.

10. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 9, wherein the clamping devices can be rotated.

11. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 9, wherein the clamping devices can be moved or twisted hydraulically, pneumatically and/or electrically.

12. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 9, wherein the clamping devices are equipped with clamps at the matching module end.

13. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 8, wherein the abutments formed at the matching module correspond in form to the clamps.

14. (Withdrawn) Device according to claim 1, wherein the transport chamber on an adapter side are equipped with a seal.

15. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 4, wherein the locking plate is vulcanized on or in ~~the~~ each corresponding molded element.

16. (Withdrawn) Device according to claim 14, wherein the seal comprises an o-ring.